

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 FREETO 00515 01 OF 02 231435Z

46

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 OIC-02 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00 DLOS-04 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07

EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-03

OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAL-01

/149 W

----- 089113

R 231336Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2670

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 FREETOWN 0515

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PROG, PFOR, US, SL

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: DESIGNATION OF MLO AND  
INFORMATION ON SIERRA LEONE

REF: STATE 37591

1. EMBASSY DESIGNATED DCM AS MLO. CURRENT INCUMBENT  
IS FSO DANIEL P. SULLIVAN.

2. FOLLOWING ARE EMBASSY'S RESPONSES TO QUESTIONNAIRE  
CONTAINED PARA 7 REFTEL, KEYED TO LETTERED SUBPARAS:

A. SIERRA LEONE AT PRESENT TIME NO MULTILATERAL  
INTERESTS OR OBJECTIVES WHICH DERIVE BASICALLY FROM ITS  
OWN BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH ANY OTHER COUNTRY. ITS  
PRESENT MULTILATERAL INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES DERIVE  
PRIMARILY FROM ITS STATUS AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY IN  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 FREETO 00515 01 OF 02 231435Z

SEVERE FINANCIAL STRAITS. ITS PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE IS

TO CONTRIBUTE TO ADOPTION OF MEASURES DESIGNED TO MAXIMIZE THE FLOW OF EXTERNAL RESOURCES TO LDC'S, SUCH AS MEASURES DESIGNED IMPROVE LDC TERMS OF TRADE AND REAFFIRM LDC SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATURAL RESOURCES. GOSL HAS NOT ANNOUNCED OR MADE KNOWN TO EMBASSY ANY SPECIFIC DESIRES TO ACHIEVE MEMBERSHIP IN ANY MULTILATERAL BODIES OR SUPPORT CANDIDACIES OF INDIVIDUAL SIERRA LEONEAN REPS FOR SPECIFIC POSITION IN 1976. GOSL HAS NO PLANS KNOWN TO EMBASSY TO MAKE ANY PARTICULAR INITIATIVES IN ANY FORTHCOMING MULTILATERAL MEETINGS.

B. GOSL IS MEMBER OF OAU, NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE, AND GROUP OF 77, AS WELL AS REGULAR UN AND COMMONWEALTH BODIES AND PRODUCER ORGANIZATION (I.E., INTERNATIONAL BAUXITE ASSN). ALSO PARTNER WITH LIBERIA IN MANO RIVER UNION AND MEMBER OF ECOWAS. SL POSITIONS IN OAU, NAC AND GROUP OF 77, AS WELL AS IN UN BODES, ARE STRONGLY INFLUENCED BY CONSIDERATIONS OF AFRICAN AND LDC SOLIDARITY, BUT LESS SO BY EXTREME POSITIONS IN NAC. DURING 1975 GOSL, WITHOUT ABANDONING ATTACHMENT TO SOLIDARITY, MOVED MARKEDLY TOWARD POSITION OF MODERATION IN MANY OF THESE FORA FROM PREVIOUS MORE EXTREME OSITIONS. IT CAST KEY PROCEDURAL VOTE IN C-24 CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO WHICH DEFEATED REFERRAL OF ISSUE TO 30TH UNGA, JOINED WITH MODERATES AT OAU TO DEFEAT ARAB EFFORT HAVE OAU ENDORSE SUSPENSION OF ISRAEL FROM UN, ABSTAINED ON ZIONISM EQUALS RACISM RESOLUTION AFTER INITIATING UNSECCCESSFUL MOTION IN COMMITTEE DURING 30TH UNGA TO DEFER CONSIDERATION FOR ONE YEAR, AND ALTERED ITS POSITION ON KOREAN ISSUES FROM PREVIOUS CO-SPONSORSHIP OF HOSTILE MOTION TO ABSTENTION ON ALL SUBSTANTIVE VOTES. GOSL VOTED FOR PRECEDENCE FOR FRIENDLY KOREAN RES. IN EARLY 1976 IT WAS AMONG GROUP OF 22 AT OAU SUMMIT WHO RESISTED PRO-MPLA PRESSURES, ALTHOUGH IT LATER BECAME KEY 24TH OAU MEMBER TO RECOGNIZE MPLA AS LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA. WHILE NOT OFTEN PREPARED TO OPPOSE OAU OR NAC MAJORITY POSITIONS ON SUBSTANCE (BUT MORE FREQUENTLY PREPARED TO ABSTAIN ON EXTREME POLITICAL MEASURES), GOSL HAS SHOWN INCREASING CONCERN FOR PROCEDURAL CORRECTNESS I MULTILATERAL MEETINGS AND HAS GIVEN IT SSUPPORT TO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 FREETO 00515 01 OF 02 231435Z

UPYOLDING ESTABISHED PROCEDURES ON ISSUES WHERE IT MAY IN END ABSTAIN ON SUBSTANCE. IT DIFFICULT ESTIMATE FROM EMBASSY'S PERSPECTIVE DEGREE OF INFLUENCE GOSL MAY HAVE OR TRY TO EXERT ON OTHER COUNTRIES OR GROUPS OF COUNTRIES IN MULTILATERAL FORA, BUT EMBASSY HAS IMPRESSION IT HAS LITTLE INFLUENCE AND DOES NOT OFTEN STRENUOUSLY SEEK TO CANVASS SUPPORT FOR ITS VIEWSA MONT OTHER AFRICANS, NON-ALIGNEDS OR LDC'S. DESPITE CLOSENESS ITS TIES WITH

NEIGHBORING LIBERIA, GOSL DOES NOT ALWAYS CONSULT OR COORDINATE WITH GOL IN ESTABLISHING ITS POSITIONS. (RECOGNITION OF MPLA, FOR EXAMPLE, MADE WITHOUT CONSULTING LIBERIA WITH WHICH IT HAD PREVIOUSLY SHARED POSITION OF SUPPORT FOR ALVOR ACCORD ARRANGEMENT.) SINGLE MOST INFLUENTIAL COUNTRY IN AFFECTING GOSL DECISIONS IS PROBABLY NIGERIA. GEOGRAPHICAL PROPINQUITY TO RADICAL NORTHERN NEIGHBOR GUINEA TENDS TEMPER GOSL INSTINCTS TOWARD MODERATION, SINCE GOSL, WHILE FINDING GUINEA A DIFFICULT NEIGHBOR, ATTEMPTS NOT DRAW DIFFERENCES TOO SHARPLY. ADDITIONAL FACTOR LIMITING ABILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO GIVE STRONG SUPPORT TO MODERATE POSITIONS IS PERCEIVED VULNERABILITY TO RETALIATION BY COMMUNIST DONORS IN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FIELD.

C. GOSL INSTRUCTIONS TO DELS GENERALLY NOT SPECIFIC OR FULL, ALTHOUGH GOSL IN PAST YEAR HAS MADE GREATER EFFORTS PROVIDE CLEARER GUIDELINES TO DELS ON KEY POLITICAL ISSUES EXPECTED TO ARISE. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO 30TH UNGA DEL WRE THAT, UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE (AS ON KOREAN ISSUE), DEL SHOULD FOLLOW PRECEDENT OF PREVIOUS YEAR'S VOTE. ON NEW ISSUES DEL GENERALLY EXPECTED FOLLOW AFRICAN CONSENSUS. FONOFF HAS DIFFICULTY DUE COMMUNICATIONS LIMITATIONS IN EXERTING EFFECTIVE AND CLOSE CONTROL OVER DELS DURING MEETINGS, WHICH COMPLICATED BY FACT THAT FONMIN OR DEPUTY FREQUENTLY LEADS DELEGATIONS TO MAJOR MEETINGS AND FONOFF CIVIL SERVANTS RELUCTANT ATTEMPT PROVIDE FIRM INSTRUCTIONS. FROM EMBASSY'S EXPERIENCE, GOSL DEL REPORTING USUALLY QUITE LIMITED AND OFTEN DELAYED BEYOND POINT OF USEFULNESS OR TIMELINESS.

D. GOSL PERM REPS AT MAJOR CONFERENCE SITES AND ORGANIZATIONS USUALLY FROM POLITICAL RATHER THAN PROFESSIONAL  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 FREETO 00515 01 OF 02 231435Z

DIPLOMATIC BACKGROUND BUT, EXCEPT WHEN FONMIN LEADS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 FREETO 00515 02 OF 02 231427Z

46

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 AID-05 OIC-02 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12

NEA-10 ACDA-05 AGR-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00 DLOS-04 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07

EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-03

OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAL-01

/149 W

----- 089005

R 231336Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2671

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 FREETOWN 0515

DELEGATIONS, HEADS OF DELS USUALLY NOT OF MUCH POLITICAL WEIGHT AT HOME AND WITHOUT INDEPENDENT POWER BASE. GOSL IS HIGHLY COLLEGIATE ORGANIZATION WITH POLICY CONTROL FIRMLY FIXED IN CABINET. PRESIDENT HAS ABILITY TO DETERMINE POSITIONS UNILATERALLY BUT DOES NOT FREQUENTLY CHOOSE EXERCISE THAT POWER, PREFERRING HAVE CABINET ENDORSE HIS VIEWS COLLECTIVELY. ANY FONOFF DESIRE ALTER STANDING DEL POSITIONS ON MAJOR ISSUE USUALLY REQUIRES CABINET DECISION, THEREBY INVOLVING DELAY WHICH USUALLY OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS AT MEETINGS.

E. GOSL HAS BEEN INCREASINGLY RECEPTIVE OVER PAST YEAR TO USG REPRESENTATIONS ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES AND CLEARLY TAKING USG VIEWS MORE INTO ACCOUNT IN ESTABLISHING OWN POSITIONS. EMBASSY ABLE GET COURTEOUS HEARING AND OFTEN UNDERSTADNING AT ALL LEVELS FROM QUITE SOHPISTICATED GOSL FOREIGN SERVICE PROFESSIONALS UP TO AND INCLUDING FONMIN AND PRESIDENT. CONCEPT THAT USG-GOSL INTERACTIN ON CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 FREETO 00515 02 OF 02 231427Z

THESE ISSUES IS PART OF BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP UNDERSTOOD AND BASICALLY ACCEPTED, ALTHOUGH GOSL WOULD ALSO EXPECT USG TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION OTHER PRESSURES ON IT AND COULD RESENT WHAT IS CONSIDERED UNDUE PRESSURE ON OR HARSH USG REACTION TO GOSL POSITION ON A PARTICULAR ISSUE. GOSL VERY RARELY SOLICITS USG SUPPORT THROUGH EMBASSY ON MULTILATERAL MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE SINCE,

ASIDE FROM INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS OR  
AFRICAN DECOLONIZATION ISSUE, IT RARELY HAS STRONG  
NATIONAL INTERESTS AT STAKE ON AGENDAS OF INTERNATIONAL  
MEETINGS. GOSL VERY INFREQUENTLY MAKES REPRESENTATIONS  
TO EMBASSY EVEN ON THESE ISSUES OF HIGHEST INTEREST.  
SAMUELS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, COUNTRY INFORMATION PROGRAMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976FREETO00515  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760067-0208  
**From:** FREETOWN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760224/aaaaausw.tel  
**Line Count:** 229  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 5  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 37591  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 JUN 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <14 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: DESIGNATION OF MLO AND INFORMATION ON SIERRA LEONE  
**TAGS:** PORG, PFOR, US, SL, (SULLIVAN, DANIEL P)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006